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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of

SEP 2 0 2002

T. MURAMATSU et al

Group Art Unit: 163/FCH CENTER 1600/2900

Appl. No. 09/788,362

Examiner:

Taylor, Janell

Filed: February 21, 2001

For: PREPARATION METHOD OF NUCLEIC ACID SAMPLE FOR

RARE EXPRESSED GENES AND ANALYZING METHOD USING

THE PREPARED NUCLEIC ACID SAMPLES THEREBY

## AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2002, please amend the above-identified application without prejudice as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, please substitute for pending claims 22 and 23 the following rewritten versions of claims 22 and 23 as amended. The changes made are shown explicitly in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

(Amended) A method for the preparation of an RNA 22. sample including rare expressed genes, comprising the steps of: